

**SUBJECT: Coordination of Clandestine Collection of Intelligence in The Field**

1. Problem: How should the Director of Central Intelligence exercise his authority and fulfill his responsibility for the coordination of the clandestine collection of intelligence outside of the United States?

2. Legal Background: The National Security Act of 1947 gave the Director of Central Intelligence the authority to perform such services of common concern as were agreed upon by the intelligence community and approved by the National Security Council. The hearings before the House Committee considering this bill indicate clearly that one of the most important services of common concern that the Congress had in mind was the conduct of espionage and counterespionage operations overseas. There is also evidence that the Congress felt that this activity could best be conducted centrally by one Agency, although there is no question but that the Congress intended to protect departmental intelligence activities. It is not clear whether the Congress intended to include espionage or counterespionage activities within departmental rights, but it is clear that the Congress intended that the Director of Central Intelligence should coordinate all intelligence activities.

3. Historical Evolution: The problems of coordination of clandestine collection of intelligence overseas have multiplied in almost direct proportion to the spread of United States military commitments ✓

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Approved For Release 2005/01/27 : CIA-RDP64-00046R000100210009-1

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Approved For Release 2005/01/27 : CIA-RDP64-00046R000100210009-1